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# Leatherman's Gardens

2637 NORTH LEE AVENUE  
EL MONTE, CALIFORNIA

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MAR 16 1953  
U. S. Department of Agriculture

# BEGONIAS

## AND

# HOUSE

# PLANTS

- 1953 -

## SALES CONDITIONS

We guarantee all plants to be labeled true to name to the best of our knowledge.

Plants shipped are well rooted, strong plants and are from 3 in. pots. They are shipped in the soil they have been growing in and are carefully wrapped in damp sphagnum moss and heavy wax paper so as to reach you in perfect condition.

Shipping dates will vary with various localities. Spring shipping will be started as soon as there is no danger of the plants freezing in transit. Spring shipping in most districts starts about March 10 and we can continue shipping until about June 30. Fall shipping commences as soon as the real hot weather is past, about Sept. 15 and continues until about Nov. 30. Plants will be reserved on orders placed previous to shipping schedule and sent as soon as weather permits.

We have a heavy stock on varieties listed, except where it is stated "stock limited." However, at times we are temporarily out of stock on some varieties. Therefore please state if you are willing to accept a substitution or prefer a refund. Substituting will be done only with the customer's consent and a variety as good or better will be sent.

Orders of \$5.00 and over will be sent postpaid. On orders under \$5.00 please send 50c to help pay the postage and packing expense. Postpaid prices are good in the U.S.A. only. Customers outside of the U.S.A. contact us as to shipping costs, etc. Please send payment in full with your order. We do not send plants C.O.D. Calif. customers add 3% sales tax.

Plants are shipped via parcel post. If you prefer Railway Express shipping state so and we will add a plant or plants to compensate you for the postage. Railway Express shipping is sent freight costs collect.

All plants are individually labeled.

## REX BEGONIAS

Rex begonias are grown for their exquisite, colorful and exotic foliage. It is impossible to describe all the colorings and blendings of the various varieties. The descriptions given are the main basic colorings. Colors will vary in depth and brightness under different growing conditions. The colors will be brighter when grown where no direct sun rays shine on them. However they do need good light.

The size and shape of the leaf is of interest to most growers. There are large, medium and small leaves and therefore one can have plants that will fit the growing position. There are Rex Begonias that have creeping rhizomes and there are the types that are upright growers. Those growing upright have cane like stems and these must be staked. They are more like a small tree in habit of growth.

Rex Begonias to be successfully grown require a high humidity. The very soft hairy leaved varieties require a much higher humidity than those with very heavy textured leaves. Rex Begonias do not resent heat if the humidity can be provided.

Leaf sizes are the approximate diameter of a fully developed leaf. Miniature up to 4 inches. Small up to 5 inches. Medium up to 7 inches. Large up to 12 inches. Low growers will grow up to 8 inches tall. Medium growers will grow up to 12 inches tall. Tall growers will grow up to 18 inches tall.

### **LESUDSI**

**75c each**

Large leaf. Tall grower. Center irregularly veined in dark greens, edges have a fine line of red and are slightly hairy. Border of dark green with tiny dots of silver. Balance of leaf is a medium shade of green with a raised and blistered effect. Easy to grow.

### **PETER PAN**

**75c each**

Large leaf. Tall grower. Center of deep green, shade out into a bright green. Mid-section silver green, edged with deep red and bright green, overlaid with silver spots. Stiff red hairs are sparsely scattered over the top of leaves. Easy to grow.

### **BERTHA McGREGGOR**

**\$1.00 each**

Medium leaf. Upright, tall grower. Leaf cut and serrated, similar to a maple leaf. Center veined in deep maroon. Mid-section blue-green-silver, slightly tinged with red toward the center. The edge has a very fine line of red, slightly hairy with a small irregular border of green, silver spotted. Easy to grow.

# REX BEGONIAS

## COUNTESS LOUISE ERDODY

**\$1.00 each**

Medium leaf. Medium grower. Double spiral. Leaves twist and curl. Center gray-blue, this coloring veins out to the edge of the leaf. Mid-sections between these veinings are raised, and are silver-blue. The edges are red and gray-blue. The entire leaf is covered with stiff pink hairs and this gives the leaf a soft pink cast.

## SILVER SWEET

**75c each**

Medium leaf. Tall, upright grower. The leaves have raised blister-like sections, are of a blue-gunmetal-gray with veinings of deep blue-gray. Very fine edge of deep gray with silver spots, edged with tiny red hairs. Easy to grow.

## CHRETIAM

**\$1.00 each**

Small leaf. Low grower. Long narrow leaf, purple center, shading out to red-purple. Mid-section silver, red-purple veinings. Edges purple and red-purple.

## PATSY

**\$1.00 each**

Medium leaf. Medium grower. Irregular center of purple, shading out to red-purple. Mid-section silver with casts of red-purple. Narrow border of purple, red-purple and a scattering of silver spots. Pointed edges have fine red hairs.

## CARMELITA

**\$1.00 each**

Medium leaf. Medium grower. Deeply spiraled leaves. Mid-section of silver green with irregular veinings of red-brown in the center. Border of red-brown, spotted with silver, edged with fine hairs. Easy to grow.

## ROSETTA

**\$1.00 each**

Large leaf. Tall grower. Curled, spiral leaves. Center deep green shading to bright green. Tiny edge of red. Sections between veins raise upward and are a brilliant green. The entire leaf has raised pin spots of silver, topped by fine red hairs. Easy to grow.

## BRONZE KING

**\$1.25 each**

Large leaf. Medium grower. Very curly spiral leaf. Entire leaf is a deep bronzy-red and green with a few scattered silver blisters. Scattered stiff, red hairs give a reddish cast. Edges are red. Considered a little difficult to grow. Stock limited.

Culture instructions sent with all plants

## FIBROUS BEGONIAS

Begonias with a fibrous root system. They vary in size and habit of growth. Some are tall cane types and the "Angel Wing Begonias" are in this grouping, so called because of the shape of the leaf. Also classed in this group are the semperfloren begonias, known to some as the "Wax Begonias" or "Bedding Begonias." There are low growers, intermediate growers and the trailing types. The flowering season varies with the various varieties. Some are grown for their lovely flowers while others have beautiful foliage. The majority are of very easy culture. Each variety has its own characteristics.

### LUCERNA

**75c each**

(Also known as Coralina de Lucerna). The well known "Angel Wing Begonia." Tall, well branched, cane type. Leaves are large, olive green and are heavily spotted with silver, red underneath. The flowers are large and are in massive, drooping clusters. They shade from deep pink to red. Blooms off and on throughout the year but the heaviest flowering is in summer and fall.

### COCCINEA

**50c each**

(Also called Pink Rubra). Another "Angel Wing Begonia." Tall, well branched, cane type. Small bright green leaves that are heavily spotted white. Pink to rose-pink flowers in summer and fall.

### LADY WATERLOW

**50c each**

(Also called Catalina and Improved Digswelliana). Holly like leaves, glossy dark green. Low spreading bushy grower. Flowers in clusters are pink and white. Almost an everbloomer.

### MRS. FRED SCRIPPS

**\$1.00 each**

Tall, bushy, upright grower. Medium green leaves are lobed and rounded in a scalloped-like effect, coming to a deep point at the base. The underside of the leaf is red and both sides of the leaf are covered with short, stiff hairs. The unusual characteristic is the tiny, ruffled leaf that forms as an auxiliary leaf at the stem axis on top of the large leaf. Dainty, small, star-like, white flowers in clusters on long drooping stems in winter and spring.

# FIBROUS BEGONIAS

## SCHARFFI

**75c each**

(Also called Haageana). Tall upright grower that rapidly develops into a bushy plant. Olive green leaves, red underneath, and very hairy. Large pendulous clusters of large white flowers on long stems that droop down over the foliage. The outside of the flower petals have red hairs and give the effect of pink blossoms. The individual fully opened flowers are about 1 in. in diameter. Commences to bloom in October and continues to bloom until the following July.

## DWARF HOUGHTONI

**\$1.00 each**

Similar to Scharffi but it is a low, full, bushy and drooping grower. Very attractive grown in an elevated or hanging pot. The large clusters of white flowers droop down over the foliage.

## MRS. W. A. WALLOW

**\$1.00 each**

Bushy grower of medium height, to about 3 ft. tall. Leaves rounded at the top and ending with a sharp point. The leaf is not flat, but ripples and slightly curls, about 2 in. in diameter and 4 in. long, olive green on top, underside is a bright red. Clusters of small pale pink to white flowers in summer and fall.

## FRUTICOSA

**\$1.00 each**

A low, full, trailing plant and is best grown in an elevated or hanging pot. Thick, glossy, dark green leaves, flushed red underneath. Scattered white hairs on veins and stems. Clusters of small white flowers in summer and fall.

## CORBEILLE DE FEU

**75c each**

(Also called Bertha de Chateau Rocher). Medium grower, bushy and well branched. Slender stems with tiny small leaves of waxy bright green. Numerous small clusters of coral-red flowers. Almost an everbloomer.

## #76221 (New York Botanical Gardens)

**75c each**

(Also called Mexican Species #2, but in all probability is one of nature's hybrids). Tall, upright, willowy grower. Shining green leaves with chocolate-brown spots, that are not uniform as to spacing and size. Leaves are edged with fine white hairs. A shy bloomer but the foliage is unusual and attractive and compensates for the lack of bloom. Will also trail.



# **RHIZOMATOUS BEGONIAS**

Begonias with a rhizomatous root system, similar to the root system of an Iris plant. The rhizomes on most varieties creep across the top of the soil. There are a few varieties that are upright growers or are more attractive if staked and trained to grow upright. In this group are the "star type begonias," so called because of the shape of the leaf. The popular old favorite "Beefsteak Begonias" also come under this classification. The majority of the rhizomatous begonias are of easy culture and adapt themselves readily to house culture. The flowering period is from winter continuing to late spring.

## **HERACLEICOTYLE**

**\$1.00 each**

(Also called Mrs. Townsend). Thick, fleshy, green leaves, slightly lobed with seven points, flushed red underneath. The leaves grow to about 5 inches in diameter and 7 inches long. Compact clusters of deep pink flowers on stiff stems are held well above the foliage. This is considered one of the most beautiful flowering begonias.

## **SILVER STAR**

**\$1.00 each**

Beautiful foliage. The green leaves are overlaid with silver, the silver color predominating. The 6 to 9 point leaves develop to about 5 inches in diameter to 6 inches long. The pale pink to white flowers are in clusters.

## **GREEN STAR**

**\$1.00 each**

Attractive green leaves, flushed red underneath, with from 6 to 9 points, developing to about 5 inches in diameter and 6 inches long. A full, bushy grower. Flowers are in clusters and are pale pink to white.

## **JOE HEYDEN**

**\$1.00 each**

The 5 to 8 pointed leaves are of a deep red-black when grown where they do not receive too much strong light, dark red underside. They grow to about 5 inches in diameter and 6 inches long. Clusters of rose-pink flowers on stiff stems, held well above the foliage, are a beautiful contrast with the dark leaves.

# ODD AND UNUSUAL BEGONIAS

## STITCH LEAF BEGONIA #1

**\$1.00 each**

Round heart shaped leaves are green. Around the edges of the leaves there is a brown blanket stitching. Fibrous. The plant is a full droopy grower and is best grown as a trailing plant or trellised. Fully developed leaves measure about 2½ inches by 3 inches. The flowers are tiny, in airy clusters and are white and pink mottled. The blooming period is from spring through summer.

## STITCH LEAF BEGONIA #2

**\$1.25 each**

Fibrous. The description is the same as the above. This plant is of more miniature growth, being very bushy. It too is a droopy plant and is best grown elevated. The leaves develop to about 1½ inches by 2 inches.

## DARK MAZAE

**\$1.50 each**

Fibrous. Round leaves coming to a point. With different light and growing conditions the colors will vary considerably. The basic coloring is a dark green but blendings are mainly dark and medium shades of bronze tones. The veinings on the underside of the leaves have a reddish cast. The edges of the leaves have brown markings like button hole stitching. Veining on the top of the leaves are brown shading to bronze. The leaves grow to about 2 inches by 3 inches. The flowers are white and pink mottled and the blooming period runs from spring to fall. Best grown as a trailing plant or trellised. For best color effects give good light and keep out of the direct rays of the sun. Stock limited.

## BOWERI

**\$1.50 each**

The "Eyelash Begonia," so called because of the noticeable white hairs around the edges of the bright green leaves. Small rhizomes creep and branch out across the top of the soil and develops into a very bushy plant. The leaves are rounded and come to a sharp point and grow to about 1½ inches by 3 inches. Around the edges of the leaves there are mottled blotches, chocolate brown on top and red underneath. A miniature type. The flowers are held upright on stiff stems, white, mottled pink and are in clusters. This plant requires very high humidity and is successfully grown as a terrarium plant or where high humidity can be provided. Stock limited.

# **SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

We have a very outstanding begonia collection. It would be impossible to have all varieties available at all times. It is very disappointing to customers to order specific varieties and then not receive the plants ordered. These assortments are selected so that every plant is distinctly different.

## **REX BEGONIA COLLECTION A1**

Recommended for the beginner. Easier to grow types. Dependable varieties—a wide variation of leaf colorings.

**3 plants for \$2.75**

**6 plants for \$5.00**

## **REX BEGONIA COLLECTION A2**

Intermediate group. Wide range of types and variations. A little more difficult to grow—but still not tempermental.

**3 plants for \$3.00**

**6 plants for \$5.50**

## **REX BEGONIA COLLECTION A3**

Recommended for those desiring choicer and rarer varieties. Curly spirals—outstanding colors. Some are rare and difficult to obtain. More difficult to grow—but well worth the effort.

**3 plants for \$3.75**

**6 plants for \$7.00**

## **REX BEGONIA COLLECTION A4**

Miniature Rex Begonias. Very choice and rare. Difficult to obtain—some seldom seen. Dazzling colors. Not too difficult to grow.

**3 plants for \$4.50**

Send us a list of the varieties you have and they will not be duplicated in the assortment you order.

All plants are individually labeled.

# **SPECIAL ASSORTMENTS**

## **FIBROUS BEGONIA COLLECTION F1**

Beginners group. Easier to grow—a good learn how group. Each dependable variety has its own characteristics.

**3 plants for \$2.25**

**6 plants for \$4.00**

## **FIBROUS BEGONIA COLLECTION F2**

Choicer and rarer varieties—not too difficult to grow. Each variety entirely different.

**3 plants for \$3.00**

**6 plants for \$5.50**

## **RHIZOMATOUS BEGONIA COLLECTION R1**

Of easy culture in all districts. Ideal house plants. Each variety will be different.

**3 plants for \$3.00**

**6 plants for \$5.50**

## **ASSORTED COLLECTION B1**

A well rounded group of types. Suggested for those desiring variation. Not too different to grow varieties.

2 Rex Begonias

2 Fibrous Begonias

2 Rhizomatous Begonias

**6 plants for \$5.00**

## **REX BEGONIA SEEDLINGS S1**

Grown from seeds. Choice hybrids. No two alike. Fascinating to grow. Seedlings will change from time to time and many times the true color will not develop for three years. If you like something different—we recommend these hybrids.

**3 plants for \$3.00**

**6 plants for \$5.50**

## **FERN COLLECTION S2**

Evergreen. All distinctly different. In the milder climates they will grow well in the shade garden.

**3 plants for \$2.00**



LEATHERMAN'S GARDENS

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Monte - California



Liberty, N. A. Dept. of Agriculture  
Washington 25, D. C.

